

this section. The value of the transport index for nuclear criticality control may be zero provided that an unlimited number of packages is subcritical such that the value of “N” is effectively equal to infinity under the procedures specified in paragraph (a) of this section. Any transport index greater than zero must be rounded up to the first decimal place.

(c) Where a fissile material package is assigned a nuclear criticality control transport index—

(1) Not in excess of 10, that package may be shipped by any carrier, and that carrier provides adequate criticality control by limiting the sum of the transport indexes to 50 in a non-exclusive use vehicle, and to 100 in an exclusive use vehicle.

(2) In excess of 10, that package may only be shipped by exclusive use vehicle or other shipper controlled system specified by DOT for fissile material packages. The shipper provides adequate criticality control by limiting the sum of the transport indexes to 100 in an exclusive use vehicle.

§71.61 Special requirement for irradiated nuclear fuel shipments.

A package for irradiated nuclear fuel with activity greater than 37 PBq (10⁶ Ci) must be so designed that its undamaged containment system can withstand an external water pressure of 2 MPa (290 psi) for a period of not less than one hour without collapse, buckling, or inleakage of water.

§71.63 Special requirements for plutonium shipments.

(a) Plutonium in excess of 0.74 TBq (20 Ci) per package must be shipped as a solid.

(b) Plutonium in excess of 0.74 TBq (20 Ci) per package must be packaged in a separate inner container placed within outer packaging that meets the requirements of Subparts E and F of this part for packaging of material in normal form. If the entire package is subjected to the tests specified in §71.71 (“Normal conditions of transport”), the separate inner container must not release plutonium as demonstrated to a sensitivity of 10⁻⁶ A₂/h. If the entire package is subjected to the tests specified in §71.73 (“Hypothetical accident

conditions”), the separate inner container must restrict the loss of plutonium to not more than A₂ in 1 week. Solid plutonium in the following forms is exempt from the requirements of this paragraph:

- (1) Reactor fuel elements;
- (2) Metal or metal alloy;

(3) Vitrified high-level waste contained in a sealed canister designed to maintain waste containment during handling activities associated with transport. As one method of meeting these design requirements, the NRC will consider acceptable a canister which is designed in accordance with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section VIII, 1995 Edition (earlier editions may be used in lieu of the 1995 Edition). However, this canister need not be designed in accordance with the requirements of Section VIII, Parts UG-46, UG-115 through UG-120, UG-125 through UG-136, UW-60, UW-65, UHA-60, and UHA-65 and the canister’s final closure weld need not be designed in accordance with the requirements of Section VIII, Parts UG-99 and UW-11. The Director of the Federal Register approves this incorporation by reference in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR Part 51. Copies of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section VIII, 1995 Edition, may be purchased from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Service Center, 22 Law Drive, P.O. Box 2900, Fairfield, NJ 07007. It is also available for inspection at the NRC Library, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-2738 or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite 700, Washington, DC.; and

(4) Other plutonium bearing solids that the Commission determines should be exempt from the requirements of this section.

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§71.64 Special requirements for plutonium air shipments.

(a) A package for the shipment of plutonium by air subject to §71.88(a)(4), in addition to satisfying the requirements of §§71.41 through 71.63, as applicable, must be designed, constructed, and prepared for shipment so that under the tests specified in—